

DEAD END



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Manga
Drama/Horror
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DEAD

Noppori and Pocchari are two nasty hitmen. Stitch Head is a mute and monstrous heavy on a mysterious mission. And Mr. Q is a quick-tempered, foul-mouthed thug who just might be the solution to everyone's problems.

When Shirou, Gips and Parrot try to convince Mr. Q to join up with them, he agrees—for the right price. But the cost will take the trio into a murky underworld where the only way out might be to pay with one's life.



+

END

ISBN: 1595321624



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DEAD END™

SHOHEI MANABE

02

DEAD END

02





DEAD END

VOLUME 2

BY

SHOHEI MANABE



HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

Dead End Vol. 2

Created by Shohei Manabe

Translation - Christine Schilling
English Adaptation - Jay Antani
Copy Editor - Troy Lewter
Retouch and Lettering - Eva Han
Production Artist - Jason Milligan
Cover Design - Gary Shum

Editor - Paul Morrissey
Digital Imaging Manager - Chris Buford
Pre-Press Manager - Antonio DePietro
Production Managers - Jennifer Miller and Mutsumi Miyazaki
Art Director - Matt Alford
Managing Editor - Jill Freshney
VP of Production - Ron Klamert
Editor-in-Chief - Mike Kiley
President and C.O.O. - John Parker
Publisher and C.E.O. - Stuart Levy



TOKYOPOP Inc.
5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

E-mail: info@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

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ISBN: 1-59532-162-4

First TOKYOPOP printing: June 2005

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in Canada





The Big Man Wearing Construction-Worker Clothes
Age: 35
Subsisted on money received from the Mole Man.
May possibly be linked to Shirou's past.



The Old Man
Age: 71
Hospitalized after witnessing a traumatic event.
Knows a dark secret.



Lucy
Age: 17
A mysterious girl who has been reported missing.
Has pleasant manners, but occasionally wears a grim expression.
Shirou is head-over-heels in love with her.
The one person in the story who holds the key to his secrets.



Tattoo Guy
Age: 24
Shirou's friend.
Made a living as a tattoo artist.
May possibly be linked to Shirou's past.



Four Eyes
Age: 23
Shirou's friend.
Made a living sharpening cutlery.
May possibly be linked to Shirou's past.

Shirou pines for Lucy, and is trying to find her.



Shiba Shirou
Age: 19
Our main character.
Formerly employed as a menial worker in a factory.
Has a generally positive attitude in the face of adversity.
Has strong feelings for Lucy.



The Second Man Parrot
Age: 28
Formerly earned a living as a boxer in underground fight clubs.
Has a fondness for small animals.

Shirou's Buddies



The First Enemy Stitch Head
Age: Indeterminate
Has abnormal physical strength.
Pursuing Shirou and his friends.

He wants to track down and kill Shirou and his friends.



The Third Man Mr. Q
Age: 48
Self-proclaimed private detective.
His gruff, foul-mouthed exterior masks a lonely soul.

He knows about Shirou's past, informing him of the dangerous situation he's in. He also dispatches Shirou on his mission to round up his friends—or rather, "acquaintances from the past."



The Beginning Man Mole Man
Age: 36
A vagabond and all around nice guy.
Aware of Shirou and his friends' pasts, he demands close attention.



Shirou's "Acquaintances From the Past"



The Fourth Man Identity Unknown
Age: Unknown
No information available.



Boss
Age: 64
A yakuza closing in on Chappa.
Got rich through a series of speculative land deals; now works in the service of the criminal underworld.

Having absconded with his Boss' money, Chappa is on the run, while the Boss and his thugs are after him.



The First Man Gips (Chappa)
Age: 18
Formerly a gigolo who lived off his Madlove lover.
A rebellious sex addict.
Has goodwill towards Shirou.



The Fifth Man Identity Unknown
Age: Unknown
No information available.



Noppori
Age: 35
Boss' henchman.
He and Poodhari carry out the Boss' bidding.



Poodhari
Age: 31
Boss' henchman.
Belligerent.
His job is to protect Stitch Head. His true identity's currently unknown.



The Kid
Age: 13
"Adopted" son of the rich loan collector.
Highly intelligent.
Gets along well with Gips (Chappa).



The Rich Loan Collector
Age: 68
Close friends with the Boss.
Covets the Boss' priceless rice bowl, which is a family heirloom.
Sexually attracted to children.

STORY

Shirou, an average guy living in the everyday grind, happens upon a mysterious and beautiful girl. Her name's Lucy, and for Shirou, she's his dream girl. By spending time with Lucy, Shirou gets a taste of happiness—something he's never experienced until now. However, two days into their relationship, Shirou comes back to his apartment to find it soaked in blood and littered with pieces of his nocturnals' corpses. On top of that, Lucy has disappeared. It is then, amidst all the carnage, that Shirou encounters a large, mysterious man.

Fleeing from an unknown, terrible threat, Shirou comes across "The Beginning Man," (aka "Mole Man"), who informs Shirou that he has five other friends that he must find. Shirou has no memory of his past, much less his friends, but he heeds the Mole Man's words.

While trying to piece together his lost memories, Shirou gathers up his scattered "acquaintances from the past," hoping they will help him find Lucy. Shirou's adventure has just begun...

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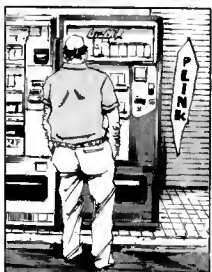
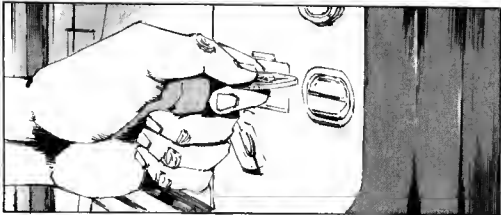










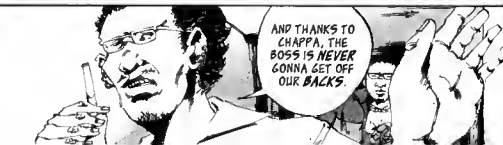


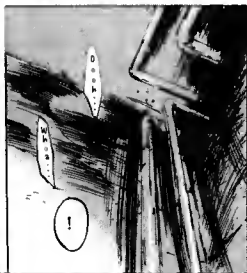
















BUT IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE BEGINNING THAT IT WAS BEST TO KEEP A VIGILANT DISTANCE FROM HIM.

WHEN I FIRST SAW HIM, I HAD THE WEIRDEST URGE TO WATCH HIM UP CLOSE.

A "VIGILANT DISTANCE"?

I DON'T KNOW HOW HE'S SURVIVED THIS LONG, BEING AS I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN HIM EAT OR *PRINK*.



NOBODY HAS VIGILANT DISTANCE BETWEEN THEM.

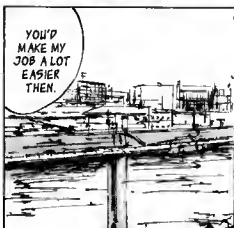
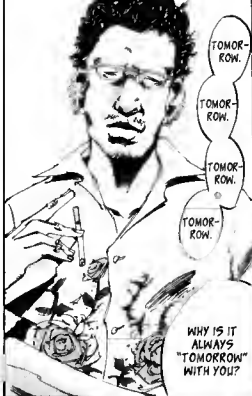
IT REALLY CHAPS MY ASS--SO NO MORNING TRAINS FOR ME.

THAT'S WHAT BUGS ME ABOUT CROWDED TRAINS.

YEP, UNLESS YOU WANNA WEAR YOUR GUTS ON THE OUTSIDE...

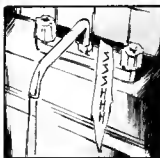
...YOU'LL TAKE HEED.





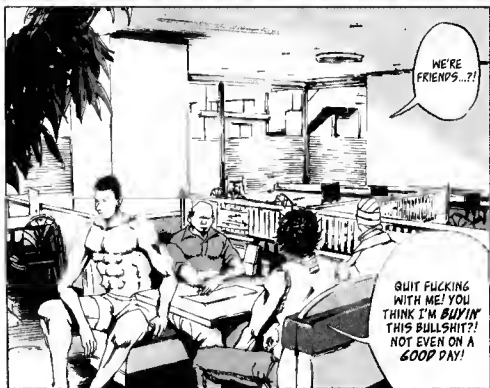








A
MONSTER?



WE'RE
FRIENDS...?!

QUIT FUCKING
WITH ME! YOU
THINK I'M *BUYIN'*
THIS BULLSHIT?!
NOT EVEN ON A
GOOD DAY!





...IT'S
ALL-YOU-
CAN-
DRINK.

B-BUT,
SIR, AT
THE SELF-
SERVICE
BAR...



DON'T
FUCK
WITH ME,
SNOT
RAG.



OOPSIE!
UM, SORRY,
SIRS, BUT
BEVERAGE
ORDERS ARE
PLACED AT
THE BAR.



IS HE
KIPPIN'?!
ハッ

ALL-YOU-
CAN-DRINK?!
NO SHIT?!





WATER
ME.

GREAT. IT'S
THE BOW-TIE-
WEARIN FRUIT.

YES,
SIR?

THIS
ISN'T
GOING
WELL.

Toilet
time!

WAITER!!

IT'S SELF-
SERVICE.

ERM...
BEVERAGES
ARE AT THE
BAR, SIR.

T
W
I
T
C
H

BUT SINCE
ALL YOU'RE
DOIN' IS
STANDIN'
AROUND
SCRATCHIN'
YOUR
BALLS...

YEAH. I
HEARD YOU
THE FIRST
TIME

...THEN WHY
NOT FETCH
ME
A GLASS OF
AGUA, 'KAY?





YOU AIN'T
EVEN GOOD
ENOUGH FOR
MINIMUM
WAGE...

SCRATCH
THAT.

YOU'RE JUST
SOME MINIMUM
WAGE CHUMP.



YOU'RE
GARBAGE.



...WITH THAT
FLABBY ASS
OF YOURS.



I SWEAR, IF I
HAD TO PICK
YOU OUT OF
A LINEUP OF
ASSHOLES, I'D
BE STUMPED.

'CUZ IF YOU
ASK ME, YOUR
MERE EXISTENCE
IS DOIN' MORE
HARM THAN
GOOD.

AND DON'T
GIMME THAT
SONG AND
DANCE 'BOUT
HOW YOU'RE
NOT HURTIN'
ANYBODY.

IF YOU
CARE EVEN THE
SLIGHTEST ABOUT
THE WORLD
AROUND YOU...

YOU GOT ANY
IDEA HOW MUCH
MONEY...HOW MANY
RESOURCES HAVE
GONE TO WASTE
ON YOUR PATHETIC
EXISTENCE?



...YOU'D DO US
ALL A FAVOR
AND OPEN UP
AN ARTERY



THE WAY HE
STOMPED,
AND
KICKED, AND
PUNCHED...
HE WAS
TOTALLY
OUT OF
CONTROL



ALL I COULD DO
WAS TAKE THE
BEATING AND
HOPE IT WOULD
END SOON.



I CAN'T TAKE
IT ANYMORE...

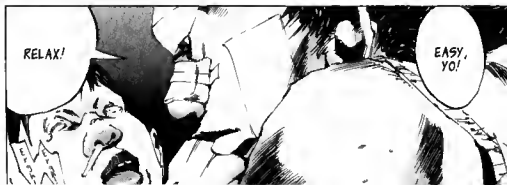
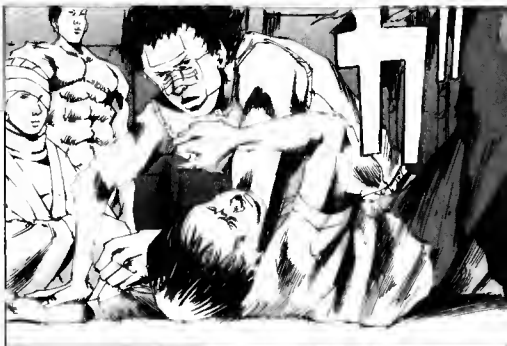


GET
ME MY
MONEY,
BITCH!

WORTHLESS
SCUM!









WAITERS HAVE
TO STAY CALM.
CORRECT? IT'S
PART OF THEIR
JOB. NO?



ARE YOU OR
ARE YOU *NOT* A
PROFESSIONAL
WAITER?



YOU'RE A REAL
TROUBLEMAKER,
AREN'T YOU?

OUCH.

TALKIN' LIKE
THAT, YOU'RE
LIABLE TO
OFFEND
ANYBODY!

IT'S GONNA
COST YOU A
PRETTY PENNY.
YOU KNOW
THAT, RIGHT?

HMM?!



HMPH.



...AND I'LL BE
YOUR BUDDY--
OR WHATEVER
THE HELL ELSE
YOU WANT

YOU FORK OVER
A HUNDRED
GRAND FIRST...



NOT SO
FAST.

I AIN'T SO
LOADED
AFTER THAT
MATCH YOU
LOST, RE-
MEMBER?!



...CAN
MANAGE
THAT WITH
THE LOOT
HE'S GOT.

SOUNDS
REASONABLE.
I THINK
GIPS...



HUH?
AW,
SHIT...!



BUT... I KNOW
A WAY WE CAN
MAKE THAT
MONEY BACK IN
A SECOND.



A WAITER
MAKES \$7.50
AN HOUR,
RIGHT?

SERIOUS?

NOW CONSIDER
WHAT I MEAN
WHEN I SAY I'LL
MAKE A HUNDRED
GRAND IN A
SECOND.



BUT...IF
YOU'RE WILLING
TO TAKE THAT
RISK...

IT'S TEN
THOUSAND
TIMES
RISKIER THAN
A WAITER'S
JOB.

...THEN I
GOT US A
PLAN.



HEY!
WHERE
YOU AT?!

POCCHARI!
I'M BACK...!



HUH? NOT
HERE, EH?

TSK. AND I
HAD CANDY
AND STUFF
FOR HIM,
TOO.









DEAD END



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PART 6 THE THIRD MAN: EPISODE II



TO BE KILLED AT
THE HANDS...

...OF BRAINLESS SCUM
LIKE THAT...WITH NO
SKILLS, NOTHIN'
GOIN' FOR 'EM...
THAT'S THE WORST
DEATH I CAN IMAGINE.
THAT'S WHY...





...I ALWAYS THROW 'EM
THE MOST MURDEROUS
LOOK I CAN.



I STILL GOT
SOME JUICE
LEFT FOR THAT!!




...BUT I'D GIVE
THEIR HEADS
A FEW GOOD
KICKS!

I KNOW I
COULDN'T
KILL 'EM ALL
MYSELF...







IT JUST SO
HAPPENS THAT
THE BOSS WAS
PLANNING TO USE
THAT MONEY...

...TO BUY
A LARGE
QUANTITY OF
JEWELS FROM
SOME SOUTH
AMERICAN
SAILORS.

OF COURSE, A
SIGNIFICANT
PURCHASE
LIKE THAT
MAKES FOR A
GENEROUS TAX
EXEMPTION



ON TOP OF
THAT, THE
BOSS PLANNED
TO OFFLOAD
THE JEWELS TO
RETAILERS FOR
A HUGE PROFIT.

GOD...I'D
LOVE TO
HAVE SEEN THE
BOSS' FACE
WHEN HE OPENED
HIS EMPTY SAFE



BY NOW, HE'S
GOTTABE IN A
TIZZY TRYIN' TO
NAB ME AND GET
HIS MONEY BACK!



TO COVER HIS
ASS, THE BOSS
IS SELLING HIS
VALUABLE RICE
BOWL TO A LOAN
COLLECTOR.



THEY
GET HERE
AT EIGHT
TONIGHT. YEP
THOSE SOUTH
AMERICANS
ARE HERE TO
DO BUSINESS
OR CRACK
SKULLS.



RIGHT NOW,
THE BOSS
PROBABLY
WANTS MY
HEAD ON A
PLATTER.

HEH
HEH
HEH...

YOU'RE
REALLY
SOME-
THING
ELSE.

THE BOSS
DOESN'T HAVE
MUCH TIME TO
NEGOTIATE
WITH THE
COLLECTOR--
SO THE BOWL'S
CERTAIN TO GO
AT A CHEAP
PRICE, GET MY
MEANING?

Heh heh
heh...

THE
COLLECTOR
LIVES IN KYOTO,
YOU SEE. HE'S
HAD HIS EYE
ON THAT RICE
BOWL FOR A
LONG TIME.

AT LEAST
HE'LL HAVE
THE JEWELS
TO FALL
BACK ON.



...IS ARRIVING
ON THE BULLET
TRAIN TO TOKYO
WITH A TON OF
CASH

ANYWAY,
AT NOON
TODAY THAT
COLLECTOR...



I THINK WE
SHOULD TAKE IT
DON'T YOU?

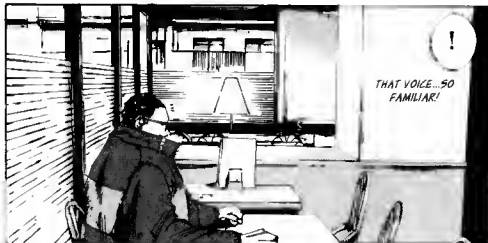


AND JUST
HOW'D YOU
COME BY THIS
INFORMA-
TION?



INTERCEP-
TION!





CHAPPA!



FATSO.

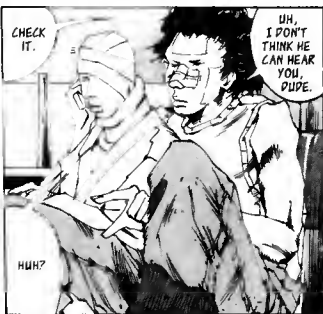


OH!











OH,
REALLY?

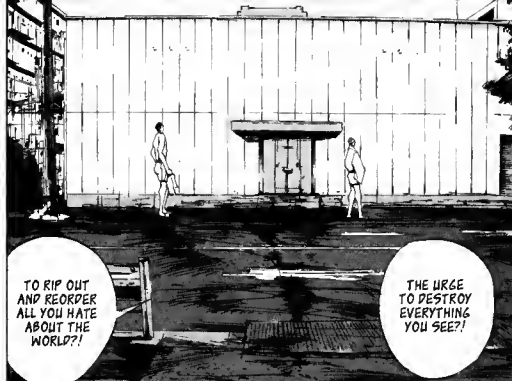
COME ON!
AREN'T YOU
FEELING
IT?!

WHAT
THE--?!
I THOUGHT
WE WERE
ALREADY
HAVING
FUN!

'CUZ NOW
IT'S TIME
FOR FUN!

SAY...

...WHY
DIDN'T
YOU WANT
THE
OTHERS
TO COME
ALONG?



TO RIP OUT
AND REORDER
ALL YOU HATE
ABOUT THE
WORLD?!

THE URGE
TO DESTROY
EVERYTHING
YOU SEE?!

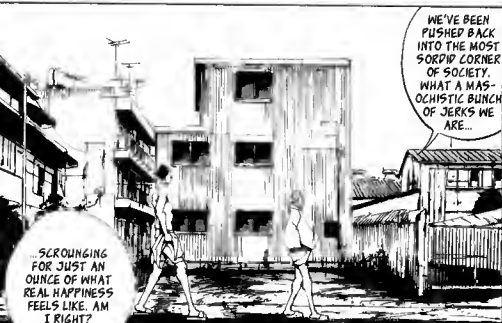


THE FOUR
OF US ARE
QUITE ALIKE,
Y'KNOW.

YOU, SHIROU...
THE OLD MAN,
TOO.



WHADDAYA
MEAN?



WE'VE BEEN
PUSHED BACK
INTO THE MOST
SORDID CORNER
OF SOCIETY.
WHAT A MAS-
OCHISTIC BUNCH
OF JERKS WE
ARE...

...SCROWNGING
FOR JUST AN
OUNCE OF WHAT
REAL HAPPINESS
FEELS LIKE. AM
I RIGHT?



...OF
EXPLODING!

I'M ON
THE
VERGE...

WHEN
SHIROU
SHOWED UP
AND TOLD
ME...

...THINGS WERE
NOT WHAT THEY
SEEMED--I FELT
LIBERATED!



HMPH.

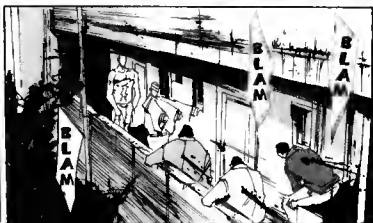
YOU MUST'VE
FELT IT, TOO!

SHOULDA
KNOWN.

EH,
PARROT?









Y'KNOW
...



...THIS
ROOM'S FENG
SHUI JUST
AIN'T DOING IT
FOR ME.

I GOT RID OF
EVERYTHING
I WANTED
TO PUT
BEHIND ME.



HMPH.



WHEN
I WAS
FINISHED,
I HAD
NOTHING
LEFT.



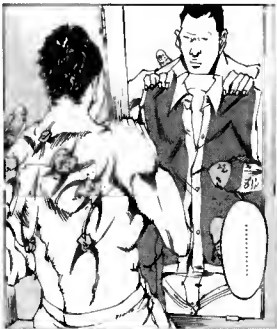
HECK

HECK



IT WON'T
BITE.
JUST
PUT IT
ON.

HUH.



WHAT'S IN
THERE?

MY RIFLE.



SHIT.



THIS ISN'T
GOOD. THE
BUILDING'S
CLOSED...

...AND THE
STAIRS TO
THE ROOF
ARE INSIDE.



CHRIST!

YOU KNOW
HOW LONG
IT TOOK
ME TO DIG
UP THIS
JANITOR'S
UNIFORM?!



TO TRACK
DOWN THE
BOSS.

I'M NOT STUPID.
YOU'VE HAD
SOMETHING UP
YOUR SLEEVE ALL
THIS TIME. WHAT'S
THE PLAN, ANYWAY?

WHAT'RE
YOU
DOING?





IS
THAT
IT?!

LET'S
SAY HE
STARTED
TO BORE
ME.



YOU SEEMED
PRETTY TIGHT
WITH HIM
WHENEVER I
SAW YOU AT
THE FIGHTS.

WHAT
FOR?



HUH...?
HOW?!

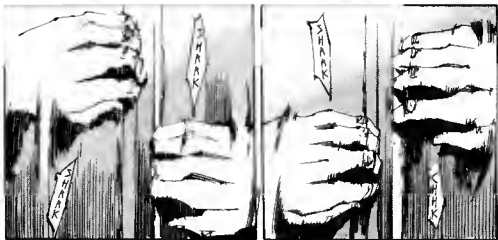


ALL
RIGHT,
THEN.

LET'S GET
TO THE
ROOF.



THAT'S
IT.





AMAZING!

YOU'RE,
LIKE...
**SUPER-
HUMAN!**
YOU KNOW
THAT?!




I JUST LOVE
THE VIEW
FROM UP
HERE!



...HOW'S
EVERYTHING
COMING
ALONG?

SHIROU...



LOAN COLLECTOR'S
ON THE TRAIN,
LIKE YOU SAID.

NO WORRIES
HERE.

NO TROUBLE
SPOTTIN' HIM,
EITHER. HE
LOOKS JUST
LIKE THE
PICTURE YOU
DREW.



ROGER!

YOU'RE
WELCOME.

WHEN I GIVE
THE WORD,
SNEAK INTO HIS
COMPARTMENT
AND NICK THE
MONEY.

YOU TWO
JUST HANG
BACK--AND
KEEP YOUR
CELL ON.

THE
BOAN
A SLEAZY
COLLECTOR POIN
BUSINESS WITH THE
YAKUZA. HE DESERVES
TO COMIN
TO HIM.

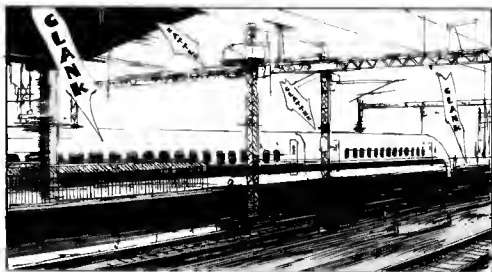


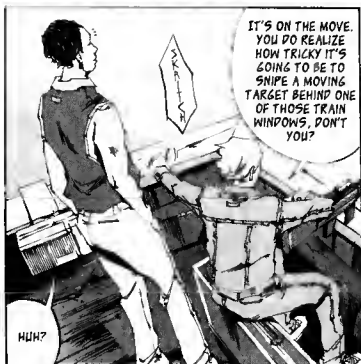
ALL OF A SUDDEN,
I'VE GONE FROM
WORKIN' A FACTORY
FLOOR TO ROBBIN'
GUYS ON TRAINS.

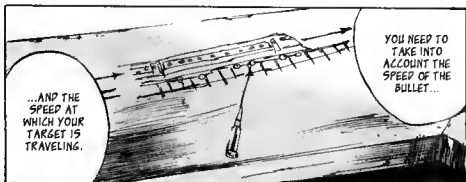
EVEN WHEN I SAW
MY FRIENDS' BODIES
IN MY APARTMENT...

...I FELT NOTHING.
AND IT'S BEEN LIKE
THAT SINCE...

GIPS TALKED
ABOUT RISKS, BUT
I COULDN'T CARE
LESS. IN FACT,
I FEEL NOTHING.

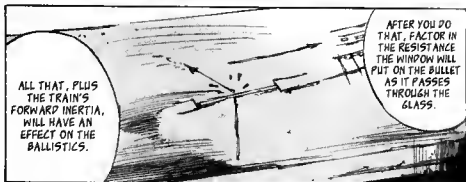






...AND THE
SPEED AT
WHICH YOUR
TARGET IS
TRAVELING.

YOU NEED TO
TAKE INTO
ACCOUNT THE
SPEED OF THE
BULLET...



ALL THAT, PLUS
THE TRAIN'S
FORWARD INERTIA,
WILL HAVE AN
EFFECT ON THE
BALLISTICS.

AFTER YOU DO
THAT, FACTOR IN
THE RESISTANCE
THE WINDOW WILL
PUT ON THE BULLET
AS IT PASSES
THROUGH THE
GLASS.



...I CAN
DO THIS.

THAT
SAID...



WHEN YOU'VE
GOT SO MANY
VARIABLES,
YOU CAN SEE
HOW...

...OUR
PROBABILITY OF
SUCCESS IS NEAR
IMPOSSIBLE.

OH! ALMOST
FORGOT...! WE
HAVE TO TAKE
INTO ACCOUNT
THE ANGLE OF
THE WINDOW
ITSELF.

A black and white manga panel showing a young man with short, light-colored hair looking down with a somber expression. He is wearing a jacket with a harness. The background shows a cityscape with buildings and a bridge.

WHEN I
FIRST BECAME
AWARE OF
MY POWER, I
SEARCHED MY
PAST TO LEARN
WHY I HAD IT.

BUT AS
HARD AS
I LOOKED,
I COULDN'T
REMEMBER A
DAMN THING
BEYOND TEN
YEARS AGO.

A black and white manga panel showing the same young man looking up towards the sky. The background is a cityscape with buildings and a bridge.

JUST AS
YOU'VE GOT
POWER IN YOUR
ARMS...

...I'VE GOT
POWER OF MY
OWN!

A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of the young man looking down. He is holding a small, dark object in his hands.

...AND THE
ONE I'VE
GOT...

A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of the young man looking down. He is holding a small, dark object in his hands.

ONE
MINUTE
TO GO.

A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of the young man looking down. He is holding a small, dark object in his hands.

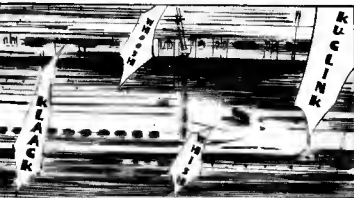
...THE ONE
ON YOUR
BACK...

A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of the young man looking down. He is holding a small, dark object in his hands.

THE
TATTOO
ON
SHIROU'S
ARM...

MAYBE SHIROW'S
RIGHT. MAYBE WE
ALL REALLY ARE
ACQUAINTANCES
FROM THE PAST.

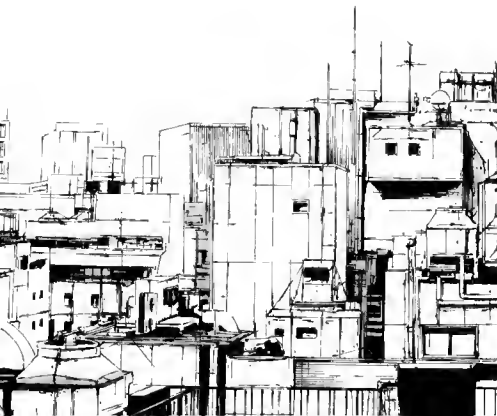
...I REMEMBER
NOTHING OF
THEM. STILL, LIKE
EVERYBODY ELSE,
I'M TRYING TO
MAKE SENSE OUT
OF LIFE.



HERE IT
COMES...



BLAAM







BULL'S
EYE



MY WORK
HERE IS
DONE.



NOW IT'S UP
TO SHIROU
AND THE OLD
MAN.

LET'S SEE IF
SHIROU CAN
PULL THIS OFF.







THOSE
HANDCUFFS ARE
UNBREAKABLE.
THE ONLY WAY TO
UNLOCK THEM IS
WITH THE KEY...

...WHICH LEAVES
US WITH NO OTHER
OPTION BUT TO
**SLICE OPEN THE
KID'S BELLY** AND
FISH OUT THE KEY.
THAT, OR CHOP HIS
HAND OFF.

HEH HEH...
YOU SEE, THE
LOAN COLLECTOR
HAS THE BRIEF-
CASE HANDCUFFED
TO THIS KID.

THE KID WAS
TRAINED TO
SWALLOW THE
KEY IF ANYTHING
WENT WRONG.



OUR SHIROU'S
GOT SOME
RATHER
UNPLEASANT
CHOICES TO
MAKE.



IF HE
GOES
THROUGH
WITH
EITHER...

...HE'S GONNA
HAVE IT ON HIS
CONSCIENCE
THE REST OF
HIS LIFE.

...TO FIND HIS
"SPECIAL GIRL"?
WE'LL SOON
FIND OUT.

SO, THE REAL
QUESTION
IS--HOW FAR
IS HE WILLING
TO GO...

DEAD END



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...GOIN'
ON
HERE?

WHAT'S...

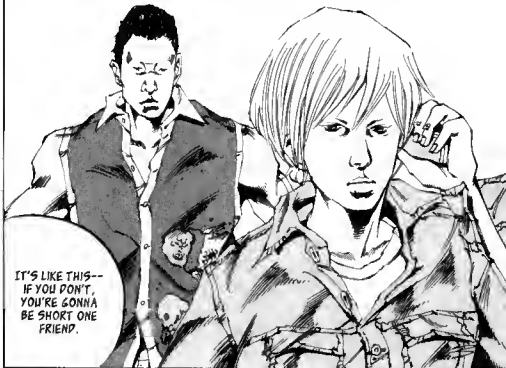
- PART 7 THE THIRD MAN: EPISODE III

...OR TAKE HIS
HAND OFF AND
SNATCH THE
BRIEFCASE.

YOU'LL
EITHER HAVE
TO CUT HIM
OPEN TO GET
THE KEY...

YOUR
CALL.

WHAT'RE
YOU, NUTS?!
YOU THINK
I'M GONNA
DO SOME
HEINOUS
THING LIKE
THAT?!



IT'S LIKE THIS--
IF YOU DON'T,
YOU'RE GONNA
BE SHORT ONE
FRIEND.



AND I'M PULLING
OUT OF YOUR
LITTLE CIRCLE,
TOO.



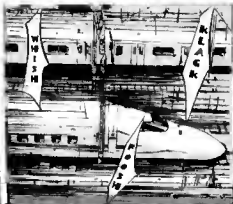
WHADDAYA
MEAN,
LOOK
POW--



WE'LL FIGURE
A WAY TO
PRY OPEN THE
BRIEFCASE
LATER!

LOOK...I'LL
BRING THE
KID WITH
ME!







THE CHOICE HE
MAKES NOW IS
GOING TO DECIDE
ALL OUR FATES.

HEH
HEH
HEH...

EVERYTHING JUST
GOT SERIOUS.
NOTHING'S CERTAIN
ANYMORE.



TWO
MINUTES
LEFT.

WHAT'S ON
YOUR MIND?



MOVE. LET
ME HANDLE
THIS.



HUH?

WHAT THE
HELL DO YOU
THINK?



BUT THE
TRUTH
IS...HOW
DO I SAY
THIS...

MOST PEOPLE
ARE ALWAYS
LOOKING FOR
THE EASY
ANSWERS IN
LIFE.



WHAT
THE--?!
IT WON'T
OPEN!



I WANT
TO SEE...



...HOW FAR
SHIROU'S
WILLING TO
TAKE THIS.



YOU PAY YOUR
DUES--BE IT WITH
A POUND OF FLESH,
THE SWEAT OFF
YOUR BROW...OR
A PIECE OF
YOUR SOUL.

SEE, IN MY
PERFECT
WORLD, YOU
EARN YOUR
PLACE. THERE
ARE NO EASY
ANSWERS.







INSIDE, WE
ALL LOOK THE
SAME. WE'RE
ALL BEAUTIFUL.

THE TEXTURE
OF OUR SKIN IS
AS SOFT AS A
CHILD'S.

YOUR HAIR
IS FINE AND
GLOSSY. IT
BLOWS LIKE
FLOWERS IN THE
FRESH BREEZE.



SHIROU, YOU
BETTER **NOT**
BE TALKIN'
TO ME!





I'M GONNA SEE
LUCY AGAIN...NO
MATTER *WHAT* I
HAVE TO *DO*.



YOU MOCK ME
GIPS, BUT...

...IF YOU KNEW
LUCY, YOU'D
UNDERSTAND
WHY I FEEL
THIS WAY.



HMPH.

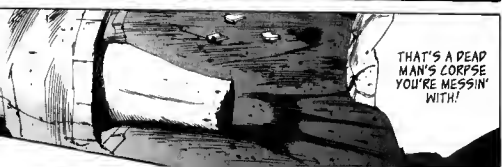


UGH...

GET BACK
TO BUSI-
NESS.

THIS ISN'T THE
TIME TO GET
LOVEY-DOVEY,
SHIROU.





THAT'S A DEAD
MAN'S CORPSE
YOU'RE MESSIN'
WITH!



'SIDES, I
THINK HIS TAP
DANCIN' DAYS
ARE OVER.

THE
DEAD FEEL
NO PAIN.



WE'LL TAKE
THE KID
WITH US...

THAT'S
THAT.

...AND
SHOVE SOME
LAXATIVES
DOWN HIS
THROAT!



YOU
DID IT!



...WON'T
BE
NECES-
SARY.



THAT...



....TO RIP MY
GUTS OPEN AND
TAKE WHAT HE
WANTED

THE BOSS. HE
WOULDN'T HAVE
HESITATED...

THE BOSS WILL
DESTROY YOU.



THANKS
FOR THE
HEADS-UP

HEH.



COME ON!
LET'S GET
OUTTA
HERE!









IT WAS
PERFECT! I
ACCOMPLISHED
OUR OBJECTIVE
WITHOUT
COMPROMISING
MY CONSCIENCE!

WE PULLED IT
OFF. GIPS!!



...SHIROU

YOU JUST
DON'T GET
IT...



WHAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM,
ANYWAY?!
WHAT DO YOU
KNOW THAT I
DON'T?!

WHAT THE
HELL?! I
PULLED THAT
MISSION OFF
PERFECTLY!!



THAT BOY'S
GOING TO BE
KILLED.



...HE'S
GOING TO
KILL HIM.



THE BOSS
DOESN'T
TOLERATE
FAILURE.

AFTER HE
QUESTIONS
HIM ABOUT
WHAT HAP-
PENED...



THEY'RE
ALWAYS
LIFE OR
DEATH.

THE STAKES
ARE ALWAYS
HIGH WITH
HIM.



...YOU
KILLED HIM.

UNDERSTAND?
YOU KILLED
HIM, SHIROU.



THE MOMENT
YOU TOOK THAT
BRIEFCASE AWAY
FROM THE KID...



WHERE IS HE?
WHERE'S THE
BOSS?



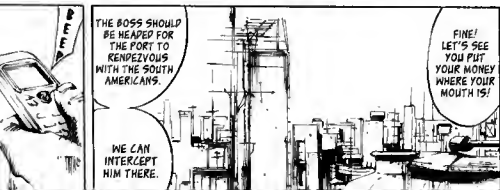




...WHY
SHOULD I BE
EMBARRASSED
EXPRESSING
WHAT I REALLY
BELIEVE?

CHRIST! JUST
LISTEN TO
YOURSELF,
WITH ALL THAT
MUSHY TALK!

LIKE I
TOLD YOU
BEFORE...



THE BOSS SHOULD
BE HEADED FOR
THE PORT TO
RENDEZVOUS
WITH THE SOUTH
AMERICANS.

WE CAN
INTERCEPT
HIM THERE.

FINE!
LET'S SEE
YOU PUT
YOUR MONEY
WHERE YOUR
MOUTH IS!



YOU BEEN
PUTTIN'
SHIROU TO
THE TEST
ALL DAY.

SO? WHAT DO
YOU THINK?
HE PASS OR
FLUNK?



PASS, I
SUPPOSE.



MAN...
YOU'RE
WEIRD



THEN I'D
HAVE KILLED
SHIROU



AND WHAT
IF HE HAD
KILLED THE
KID?



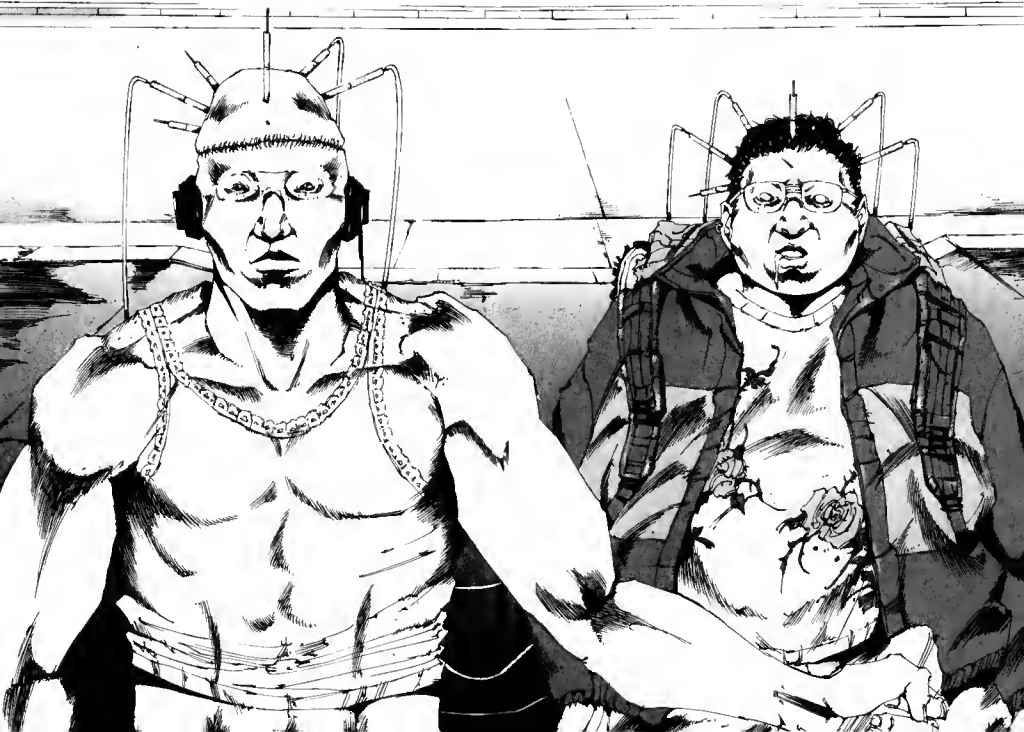
...THAT BOY
DOESN'T STAND
A CHANCE.

TRUE.
EVEN
SO...

BUT...THERE IS A
CHANCE SHIROU
UNDERSTANDS
WHAT HE'S GETTING
INTO MORE THAN I
REALIZED.



Like I
said...
weird.







ИИИ?



НЦН?







DEAD END



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PART 8 THE FIRST ENEMY



...FUCKED UP
MY HOUSE.



IT'S THE
MONSTER...
STITCH
HEAD!



WHO--
OR
WHAT--
IS THAT?

THAT...
THING...

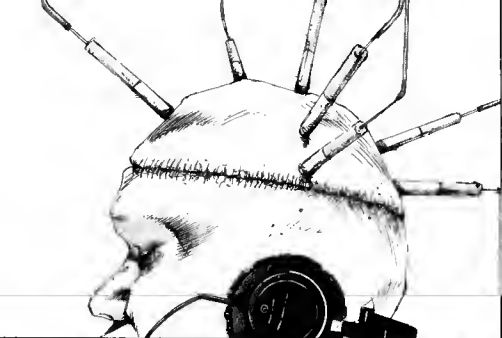






WHAT'RE
YOU--?!
AAAAAH!







INFORMATION
WAS TRANSMITTED
FROM NOFFORI
TELEPATHICALLY
WITH THESE HEAD
PLUGS.

'WHAT
A WEIRD
SENSATION...



HE'S HUNTING
THEM!



MAN...
THAT'S IT!
THIS DUDE...



YOU'LL MAKE
A SCENE IF
YOU RUN
AROUND IN
YOUR BIRTH-
DAY SUIT!

LOOK--
YOU'RE NOT
HEADIN'
ANYWHERE
LOOKIN' LIKE
THAT.



N-NO!
THESE
ARE MY
CLOTHES
!!

A A A H !!





I'M AT PEACE...
TOTALLY AT
PEACE. NEVER
FELT LIKE THIS
BEFORE...

MAN... THIS IS
TERRIFIC! FEELS
LIKE I'M
FLOATING...



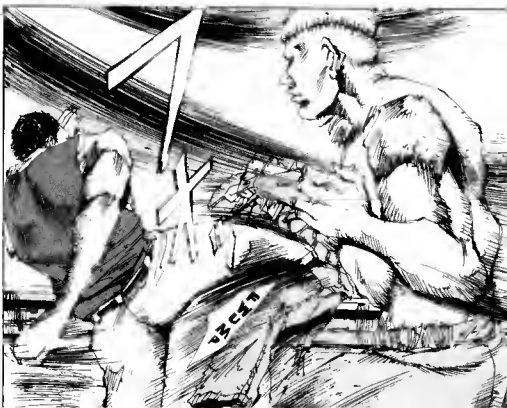
HUH? WHO
TURNED OFF
THE LIGHTS?

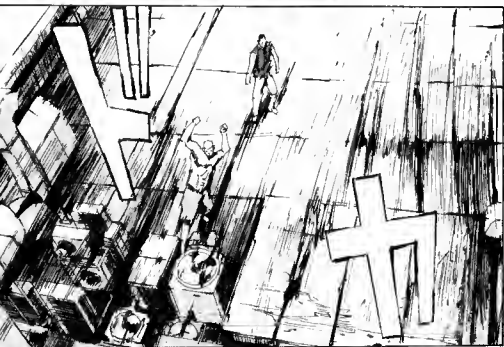
IS IT
TIME TO
WAKE UP
YET?

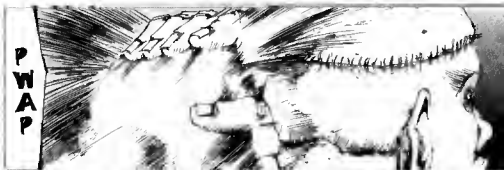


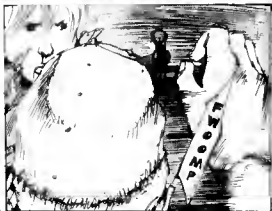
Now



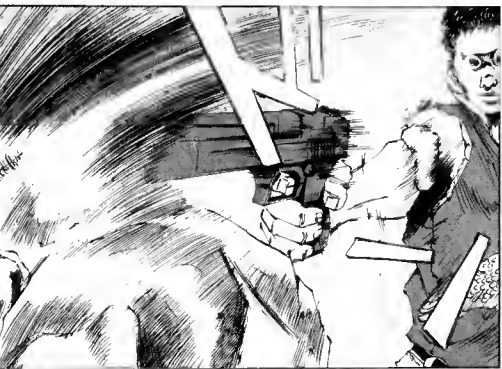


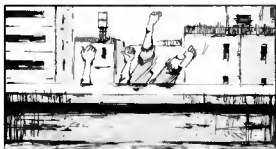


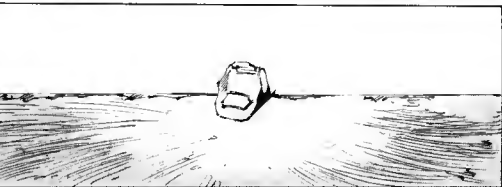


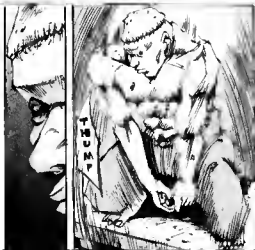


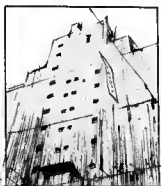
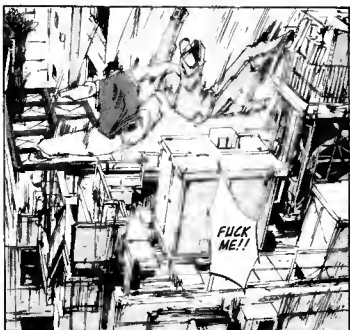
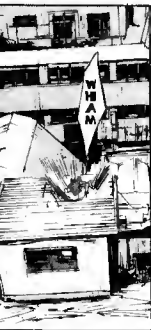




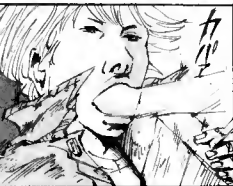




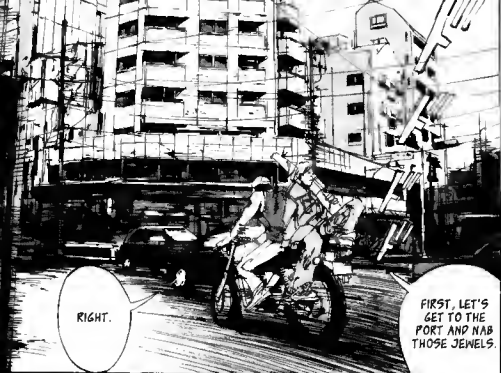












RIGHT.

FIRST, LET'S
GET TO THE
PORT AND NAB
THOSE JEWELS.

HARD
TO
SAY.

I GOT
THIS WEIRD
FEELIN',
IS ALL...

WHAT'S
ON
YOUR
MIND?







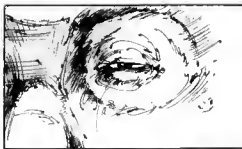
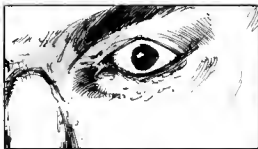
SOME-
THING
DON'T
FEEL
RIGHT...

NO,
YOU'RE
RIGHT.



ME, TOO. LIKE
WE'RE BEING
WATCHED.

GUESS
IT'S JUST
JITTERY
NERVES











NO MONEY
MEANS NO
FOOD.

WE CAN'T EVEN
GET A TRAIN
TICKET! HOW
FAR IS IT TO
THE PORT,
ANYWAY?!

SHIT! HERE
WE ARE, WITH
A TON OF
MONEY IN A
BRIEFCASE...

...BUT WE
CAN'T GET
TO ANY OF IT.

AAA
WWW!
!

HEY...

...IF YOU'RE STILL
THINKIN' ABOUT
SAVIN' THAT KID'S
LIFE, YOU CAN COUNT
ME OUT! I'M IN NO
MOOD TO DIE TODAY!
ME AND GANGSTERS
DON'T MIX!

HMPH.

I'M ON
YOUR SIDE
FOR NOW...
BUT DON'T
PUSH IT!

OR DO
YOU NOT
RECALL OUR
ADVENTURE
ON THE
TRAIN?!

LOOK,
I PUT MY
ASS ON
THE LINE
FOR YOU!

FINE! GO
HOME!





QUIT DRAGGIN'
YOUR FEET,
JERK.



IT'S MAKIN'
ME TIRED AND
ORNERY.



U G H...

WE GOT INTO
THIS 'CAUSE
YOUR GREEDY
ASS WANTED
THAT MONEY!

JUST SHUT UP!
IT'S YOUR FAULT
WE GOTTA DRAG
OUR ASSES
AROUND LIKE
THIS!



OW!

SLAP

DON'T
GIVE YOU
WHAT?!

DON'T
GIMME
ANY LIP!



A black and white comic panel showing a man with a mustache and a star-shaped scar on his forehead looking upwards. In the background, a large bridge with multiple cables is visible against a sky with some clouds.

I DON'T
WANT A
DAMN THING,
NOW.



A black and white comic panel showing a man in a light-colored jacket walking away from the viewer down a street. The street is lined with buildings and utility poles. In the foreground, the back of another person's head and shoulders are visible, looking towards the man walking away.

THIS IS
GETTING
RIDICULOUS!

HEY!

DRAKKIN'
MYSELF
AROUND TO
NO END WITH
SOME
DOOFUS!



MIND YOUR BUSINESS!



LOOK AT YA! I BET YOU GET OFF ON THIS KINDA THING, HUH?

THIS HOW YOU GET YOUR SICK THRI--



IF YOU DON'T HOP TO IT, WE'RE GONNA BE WAY LATE GETTIN' THERE!

PICK UP THE PACE! CHOP-CHOP, MR. G!

ENOUGH WITH THE MISTER, ALREADY!



KLACK

CHACK



...WE'RE
JUST GONNA
HAVE TO
STEAL THE
JEWELS!

SINCE THE
MONEY
NEVER CAME
THROUGH...



READY TO
SLAUGHTER
SOME SOUTH
AMERICANS,
BOYS?



DEAD END



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PART
7
THE
BOSS







whisper
whisper



HE SAID,
"DON'T
FUCK
WITH US,
CHICO!"

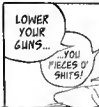
¿Estás
de coña?



G
L
A
R
E



WHY
SHOULD
I?



LOWER
YOUR
GUNS...

...YOU
PIECES O'
SHITS!

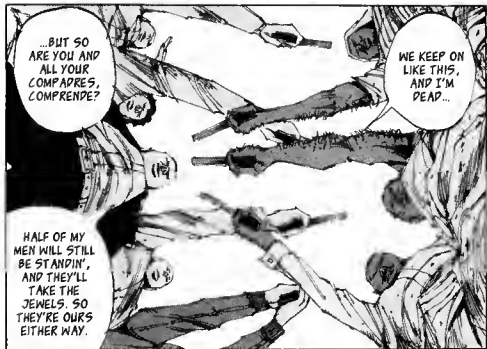


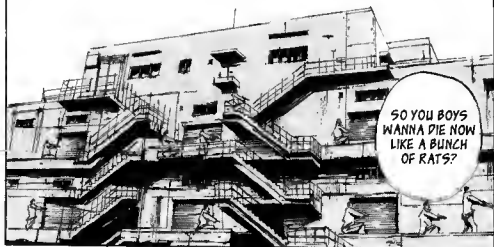
Bajad las
pistolas











SO YOU BOYS
WANNA DIE NOW
LIKE A BUNCH
OF RATS?



OR DO YOU
WANNA GO
BACK TO
YOUR HOMES
AND LIVE LIKE
KINGS? IT'S
YOUR CHOICE.



THE FINEST
WOMEN, BOOZE
AND CLOTHES--
ALL FOR BEING
PATIENT.



...OR WE BLOW
EACH OTHER
AWAY RIGHT
NOW.

IT'S
EITHER
THAT...



...



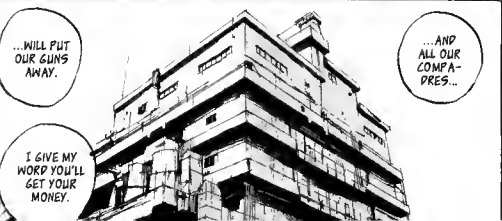
I'VE BEEN IN
THIS BUSINESS
ALL MY LIFE.
THERE'S ONLY
ONE THING I
WANTED IN
THE END...

...AND
THAT'S



IT'S
YOUR
CALL

WE CAN
FORGET
THIS LITTLE
EPIISODE.





YOU WIN,
CHIEF.



KLACK



CHACK



KLACK



CLICK



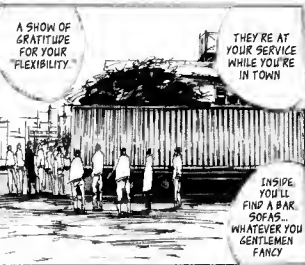
AND AS A
BONUS
...

... WE GOT
YOU BOYS
A LITTLE
SOMETHIN'
EXTRA...

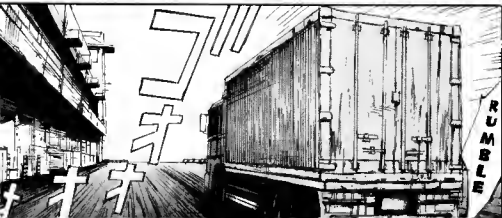


YOU GOT IT,
CHICO!

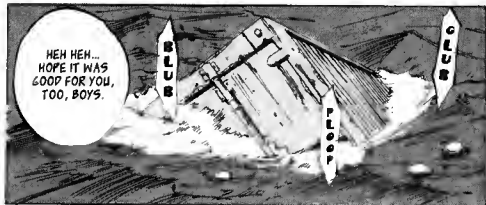
YOU
CRAZY,
MAN!







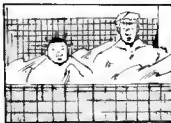










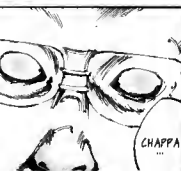






WHAT'RE
THOSE GUYS
DOING DOWN
THERE?

CAN'T
TELL.

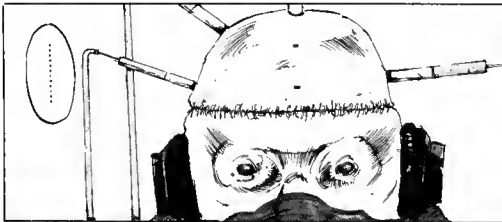


CHAPPA
...



SHIROU AND
THE OLD
MAN OUGHT
TO BE HERE
ANY MINUTE,
THOUGH.

YEP.







DEAD END



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PART 10 CHAPPA

JET
LAG.

HAM
HOCKS.

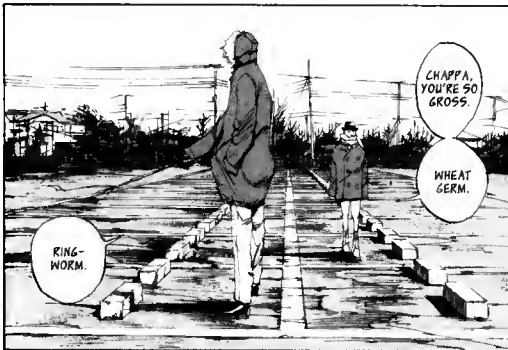
TEA
BAG.

LOOSE
SOCKS.



HORSE-
SHIT.

DIMWIT.

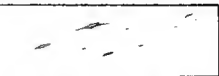










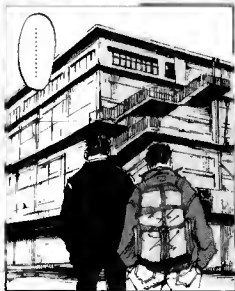






11"
SLAM
7
Y

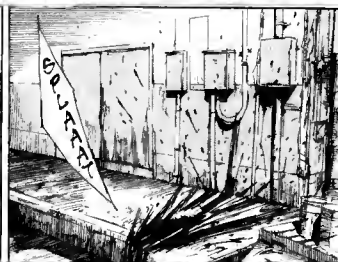
















HE'S BEYOND PAIN. I'M TALKIN' TOTALLY NUMB TO ALL THE DAMAGE HE INFLECTS.



BUT YOU'VE FACED DEATH IN THE RING, RIGHT?

?



I SEE IT AS MY JOB. JUST LIKE IT WAS SOMEBODY'S JOB TO LAY DOWN THE CEMENT WE'RE SITTING ON.

RUB
RUB

LIKE I SAID, I MADE MY PEACE WITH IT.



THE
SYMMETRY
OF TILES...
HOW EACH PIECE
WAS PART OF
A GREATER
UNIFORMITY...
IT GAVE ME
PEACE OF MIND.

Y'KNOW, I
USED TO BE
OBSESSED WITH
TILE WORK.

...BUT MY
MIND'S OPENED
UP TO THE
POSSIBILITIES OF
ANARCHY. TO THE
DARKNESS THAT
LURKS IN REALITY.

BUT SINCE
MEETING
SHIROU...
I DON'T KNOW
WHY...

I'M TRYING TO
GET USED TO THE
IDEA THAT ALL
IS NOT WHAT IT
SEEMS.

NAH.

I GET
WHAT
YOU'RE
SAYIN'.

Hmph. ?

ISN'T THIS
WHERE YOU
CALL ME A
FAG?



...I FEEL A
BIT LIKE OL'
STITCHY
MYSELF

WITHOUT
MEMORIES
TO LOOK
BACK ON...



BUT I'LL GET
THERE. JUST
GIMME TIME.

HIS
PHYSICAL
POWER IS OFF
THE CHARTS.



DON'T TOUCH
ME! I DON'T
WANNA CATCH
YOUR FAG
GERMS...

"YUP"? YOU
GOT NOTHIN'
ELSE TO SAY?

YOU SOUND
JUST LIKE
A REAL
PARROT!

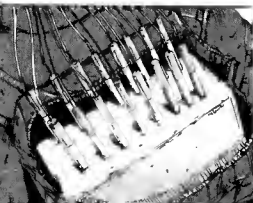


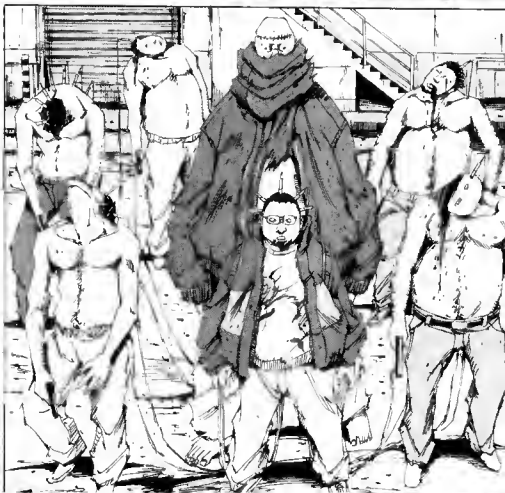
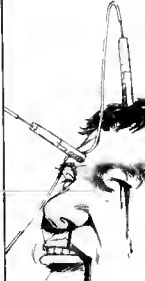
THE WOUND ON
HIS SHOULDER'S
HEALED ALREADY!
THE GUY'S
INHUMAN!

YUP.





















...WITH MY
FATE.

...THEN I
WANNA BE
AT PEACE...













D
E
A
D
E
N
D

2

F
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Meet Nana. Is this quirky girl one of Shirou's enigmatic "acquaintances from the past"? If Shirou manages to escape Stitch Head's carnage-filled pursuit, maybe Nana will join his assorted team of amnesia. She just has eleven tiny problems Shirou will need to get rid of first...



AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 2005

IN THE NEXT VOLUME OF DEAD END



Shirou's abilities become increasingly superhuman, and he mows down the competition--literally! He seems unstoppable, but is he powerful enough to save Parrot and Gips from the menacing miscreation everyone affectionately calls Stitch Head?